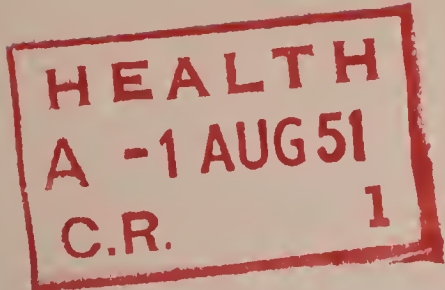


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BOROUGH OF STAFFORD



ANNUAL REPORT

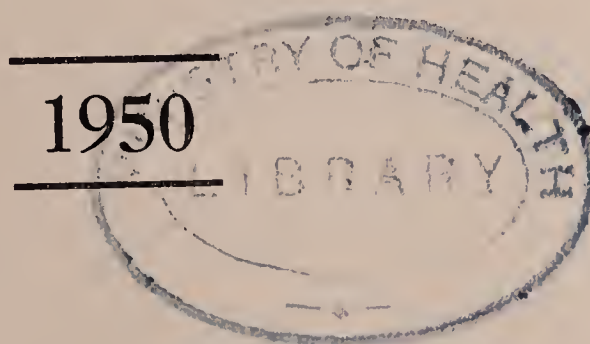
OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector

1950



STAFFORD :
CHRONICLE PRESS, GREENGATE STREET

BOROUGH OF STAFFORD.



*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health.*

BOROUGH HEALTH OFFICE,
5, MARTIN STREET,
STAFFORD.

BOROUGH OF STAFFORD



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

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Senior Sanitary Inspector

1950

H. B. BINKS

Medical Officer of Health

IVOR O. WILLIAMS

Senior Sanitary Inspector

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN : ALDERMAN MERREY.

VICE-CHAIRMAN : HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR,
ALDERMAN DOBSON.

Ald. Adamson	Coun. Cotterill	Coun. Mrs. Mellor
„ Fowke	„ Mrs. Cotterill	„ Schroeder
„ Mrs. Turney	„ Evans	„ Storer
Coun. Collins	„ Mrs. James	„ Mrs. Wilford

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

*H. B. BINKS, M.B., Ch.B. (Ed.), D.P.H. (Camb.)

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (Part-time) :

A. V. CAMPBELL, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR :

*I. O. WILLIAMS, Cert. R. San. Inst., and Certificated Meat Inspector.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTORS :

*K. A. SIMS, Cert., S.I.B.

*W. A. STOCKER, (from 1.1.50) Cert. S.I.B., and Certificated Meat Inspector.

SENIOR CLERK : MRS. H. N. JACKSON.

CLERKS : K. H. J. GREEN, Miss S. BEVAN.

*Salaries contributed to under Public Health Acts or by Exchequer Grants.

BOROUGH HEALTH OFFICE
5 MARTIN STREET
STAFFORD

July, 1951

To the Chairman and Members of the
Public Health Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Seventy-sixth Annual Report of the health of Stafford. The late arrival of the Registrar-General's figures has delayed this Report somewhat, which is drawn up in accordance with the instructions laid down in Ministry of Health Circular 112/50, dated 6th December, 1950.

The statistics presented disclose that for Stafford the year has been a very favourable one. On page 37 it will be seen that as regards deaths and the notification of infectious diseases the year compares very favourably with the figures for last year and especially so when comparison is made with the figures for the smaller towns, i.e., towns of comparative size. There has been a reduction in the number of births, and the still birth rate is high, but the infant mortality rate of 20.37 per 1,000 births (a record), following upon the low rate of 21.19 last year does afford satisfaction, especially when read in conjunction with the general death and Tuberculosis rates. Many factors, known and unknown, are no doubt responsible, but full employment, good nurture, and good housing are known to assist in the attainment of these figures.

In common with the rest of the Country, Stafford was affected by Poliomyelitis and Dysentery. The latter, though extensive, was mild in character. The presence of the dysenteries and cases of food poisoning in our midst emphasize the need of constant propaganda to better the hygiene in our homes and in all places where food is prepared. (See page 24).

The Health Committee is very concerned as to the new Sewage Disposal Works. The planning, and the necessary steps to comply with the formality of procedure of a scheme of this size and nature, have combined to delay progress to such a degree that the ingenuity of all on the present Sewage

Disposal Works will be taxed to the full if grave nuisance and unpleasantness to those living near or on the windward side of the Works is to be avoided.

HOUSING.—The Housing Committee have made praiseworthy progress in the provision of new houses. The fact that by doing so they are increasing the difficulties at the Sewage Works in no way detracts from their performance. They also have a serious problem to face—the rising cost of houses. Attention should be directed (See page 17), to the increasing number of visits made by the Sanitary Inspectors on behalf of the Housing Committee.

I would again express my thanks to the members of the Council for their continued consideration and support in my work and to my colleagues and members of my staff.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

H. B. BINKS.

REPORT

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

General Statistics.

Area of Borough	5,089 acres
Registrar-General's estimate of population, mid-1950	40,060
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1950) according to Rate Books	10,663*
Rateable value (31st March, 1950) ..	£238,409
Sum represented by a penny rate (1949-1950)	£954 1 3

*The total of 10,663 inhabited houses is made up as follows:—

Houses	10,329
Farm houses	17
Shops with living accommodation	317

Social Conditions.

Mr. Arnold, the Manager of the Employment Exchange, has supplied the following survey of employment in Stafford :

“ The year 1950 closed with the level of employment in Stafford even higher, and prospects, generally, still look bright. Provided supplies of essential materials and fuel are adequate, there should be no cause for anxiety in 1951.

“ Approximate numbers employed in the main industries, trades and occupations in Stafford are as under :—

Industry	Males	Females	Total
Electrical Engineering	5,350	1,300	6,650
Engineering (Non-electrical) ..	1,900	300	2,200
Agriculture and Forestry	1,350	150	1,500*
Shoe Manufacture	850	1,000	1,850
Distributive Trades	800	750	1,550*
Abrasive Wheel Manufacture ..	1,150	375	1,525
Transport and Communications ..	1,150	250	1,400*
Local Government Service (in- cluding Education)	800	350	1,150*
Building and Civil Engineering ..	900	20	920*
Concrete Reinforcement Design and Manufacture	525	225	750
Salt Manufacture	350	50	400*
Saw Milling and Machine Woodworking	200	30	230
Wood Heel and Last Manufacture	120	80	200

*Estimated figures.”

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1950.

Live Births. (See Table 1, page 36)

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population .. 15.9.

Registered live births :—

		Total		Males		Females
Legitimate	.. ..	615	..	318	..	297
Illegitimate	.. ..	23	..	12	..	11
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
		638		330		308
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

Still Births.

Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births .. 25.9.

Stillbirths :—

		Total		Males		Females
Legitimate	.. ..	16	..	6	..	10
Illegitimate	.. ..	1	..	1	..	—
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
		17		7		10
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

Deaths.

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population .. 9.43.

		Total		Males		Females
*Deaths	.. ..	378	..	191	..	187

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—

Death Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .. 0.01

						Deaths
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	.. ..					—
Other maternal causes	.. ..					1
						<hr/>
Total	.. ..					1
						<hr/>

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

		Total		Males		Females
Legitimate	.. ..	13	..	6	..	7
Illegitimate	.. ..	—	..	—	..	—
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
Totals	.. ..	13	..	6	..	7
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

* The Registrar-General supplies “Comparability Factors” to each district based on the age and sex of its population as shown at the last Census. When the recorded death rate of a town is multiplied by this factor the corrected death rate is obtained. This is truly comparable with the death rate of any town similarly treated. The factor for Stafford is 1.07. The corrected Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is therefore 10.09. Similarly for the Birth Rate—the factor is 1.02 and the corrected Birth Rate is 16.2.

Death Rates of Infants under one year of age :—									
All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20.36
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21.14
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	53
„ „ Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
„ „ Diarrhoca (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Vital Statistics.

Births.—The total number of registered live births for the year was **330** males and **308** females (See table, page 36).

The birth rate at **15.9** remains above the pre-war level.

The difference between **638** registered and the **896** notified live births is due to the number of babies born to non-resident mothers, and amounts to **28.8%** of the total notified births. In the Maternity Homes and Institutions **573** live and still births took place.

Deaths.—The number of deaths registered was **378** as against **377** last year.

Infantile Mortality.—The rate for 1950 is **20.36** per 1,000 live births. This is a decrease of **0.83** per 1,000 on the figure for 1949 and compares with **43.7**, the average figure for the years 1939—1948, and **56**, the average figure for the years 1929—1938. See table 2, page 36.

A table showing the causes of deaths of babies under one year of age follows :—

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Prematurity	6	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	6
Pneumonia and Broncho-pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Congenital Deformity	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Acute Gastro-ente'tis	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Asphyxia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
TOTAL ..	6	—	—	—	6	1	4	1	1	13

Principal Causes of Death.

A list of the principal causes of death is set out below with, for comparison, percentages and rates per 1,000 of the population for 1949.

Heart Diseases and Cancer again constituted the greater number.

	Rates per 1,000 of the population		Percentage of whole	Percentage of whole
	1949	1950	1949	1950
Heart Disease ..	2.97	5.3	30.4	56.0
Cancer	1.47	1.27	15.0	13.49
Bronchitis, Pneu- monia, etc. ..	0.80	0.60	8.2	6.35
Tuberculosis ..	0.28	0.25	2.9	2.64
Prematurity ..	0.13	0.15	1.3	1.59
Road deaths ..	0.23	0.10	2.4	1.06

On page 38 is a Short List of Causes of Death as supplied by the Registrar-General.

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are being carried out in this Area by the County Council as the Local Health Authority and the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board as the Hospital and Specialist Services Authority. These two bodies carry out their duties locally through an Area Committee in the case of the former, and as to the latter, by two Management Committees, one for physical ills, i.e., the Stafford and District Hospital Management Committee and the other the Mid-Staffs. (Mental) Hospital Management Committee for mental diseases.

The General Medical, Dental, Pharmaceutical and supplementary Ophthalmic Services are administered by an Executive Council constituted for the area of the Local Health Authority.

Briefly, under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Local Health Authority is responsible for :—

- (21) The provision, equipping and maintenance of Health Centres.
- (22) The making of arrangements for the care of mothers and young children.
- (23) Midwifery.
- (24) Health Visiting.
- (25) Home Nursing.
- (26) Vaccination and Immunisation.
- (27) Ambulance Services.
- (28) Prevention of illness—care and after care.
- (29) Domestic Help.

The County Council as the Local Health Authority has delegated the day to day duties under part III of the National Health Service Act, and nine Area Committees have been established. Stafford Borough is included in No. 3 Area. Representatives nominated to serve on this Committee are as follows :—

Representatives appointed by County Health Committee
—4. Representatives appointed by Councils of County Districts.—Stafford Borough 4, Stafford R.D. 2, Stone U.D. 1, Stone R.D. 2, Executive Council Representative 1, Regional Hospital Board Representative 1.

Ambulances.

The County Ambulance Service provides a fleet of Ambulances with personnel for an area which includes Stafford. This service has been adequate during the year.

Care and After Care.

Approximately 16% of our population has reached the age of 65 years or over, i.e., about 6,000. Senility comes to many and loneliness to many more. The majority of old folk are better in their own houses, but some, and their numbers are increasing, require institutional care. The Home Help scheme does help considerably in keeping them at home, happy and mentally alert.

Voluntary Agencies, as will be noted, are doing a lot, especially for those who are willing and able to attend the social gatherings, but many old folk who do not attend for various reasons are only to be reached by a visitor to the homes. It is desired that the Local Health Authority will soon be able to arrange for the routine visiting of the old folk

by a Health Visitor, who already will be known as a friend, and can use her influence in arranging for visits by relatives, friends, members of voluntary bodies, and by her encouragement persuade old folk to attend social events which help considerably to prevent the onset of mental deterioration and apathy and the personal neglect which so rapidly ensues. Her presence in the house when a move to a Hospital or to a Home is necessary would act as a calming and steadying influence, and would go a long way to banish the fear and apprehension which are so easily aroused in the minds of the aged, and the need to invoke the National Assistance Act by the District Health Authority to remove by Magistrates' Order, i.e., by force if necessary, would rightly recede into the background.

Statutory and Voluntary Provision for the Aged.

Residential Statutory.

Fernleigh Hostel, Marston Road—172 beds.

Receives members of either sex in need of care and attention.

Westhorpe Hostel, Rowley Park—14 beds.

Recently opened. Receives ladies only.

George Newman Cottages, Wolstanton—6 beds.

Accommodation for 2–3 weeks for aged persons who are in need of care owing to the illness, or absence on holiday, of those who normally look after them. This Hostel serves the whole county.

Residential Voluntary.

Glentworth Hostel, Wolverhampton Road—14 beds.

Provided by the Eventide Homes Committee. Receives members of either sex. Opening early in 1951.

The following voluntary organisations are carrying out very useful and sound work:—

The “Old Folks,” a Branch of the Stafford Guild of Social Welfare. Meetings are held monthly at the Methodist Church Rooms. In addition to social entertainments, outings are arranged in the summer, and shortly a Chiropodist will be in attendance at each meeting.

The Darby and Joan Club.

Meetings are held weekly—Holidays at the Seaside—Visits to sick Members—a benevolent fund—weekly entertainments and social activities are included in the programme.

The Littleworth Old Pensioners' Club.

In one of the rooms set aside for their use in the Pavilion overlooking the Tennis Court, a number of residents of the male sex, getting on in years, meet in warmth and comfort for a gossip, a game of cards or darts, and in fine weather for a game of bowls. The Council and kind friends have provided and furnished the room. They elect their own Committee and are responsible for the cleaning and care of the room. A "Repeat" of this type of provision could well be copied in other parts of the town.

Infectious Disease Hospitals.

The provision of accommodation for infectious cases is the responsibility of the Stafford and District Hospital Management Committee. During the year, cases from Stafford have been admitted to Hospitals as follows :—

Disease	Cases admitted to Hospitals		
	Kings-winford	Moxley	Bucknall
Scarlet Fever	21	12	4
Diphtheria		1	
Infantile Paralysis	1	11	1
Food Poisoning		1	
Measles		1	

Nursing and Maternity Homes.

Under Hospital Board Management :—
Burton House (12 beds) and Fernleigh (5 beds).
There are also two private homes with 7 beds.

Clinics.

Under Local Health Authority :—
School Clinic, Lammascote Road.
The Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, North Walls.
Under Local Hospital Authority :—
Orthopaedic Clinic housed at the Welfare Centre, North Walls.
Tuberculosis Dispensary, Mill Bank.
Venereal Disease Clinic at the General Infirmary.

Hospitals.

Staffordshire General Infirmary, Foregate Street, for General Surgical and Medical cases. 159 beds.

Fernleigh, Marston Road, for chronic sick and maternity cases. 151 beds.

St. George's Hospital, including premises formerly known as Coton Hill. 1,237 beds.

Other Hospitals to which cases are referred are at Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Manchester and North Staffs.—Stoke.

Laboratory Facilities.

During the year 650 bacteriological reports were received from the National Public Health Laboratory Service, by the Medical Officer of Health. This Service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health, and examination of clinical material (sputum, swabs, etc.), is carried out at their laboratory in Martin Street, Stafford.

The analysis of water, milk, and food-stuffs, etc., is carried out by the County Council at their Laboratory in Martin Street.

I have received willing assistance and helpful advice from both these Services during the year.

Royal Brine Baths.

The Baths Superintendent reports as follows :—

“ Attendances at the Royal Brine Baths for the year were :—

Private Brines	..	..	..	3,488
Brine Swim	..	..	..	4,203
Turkish Baths (Ladies)	..	..	..	468
Private Wash Baths	..	..	..	25,167
Fresh-water Swim	..	..	..	65,167

“ All departments show a decrease in numbers during the very trying year, the Swim being closed during the month of August. The general cold weather during the latter part of the year having a damping effect on the activities of the Baths.

“ The Schools programme, however, increases from year to year, this year being a record, 28,244 attendances having been made which shows an increase of 7,000 over the previous year. Extra facilities are being given in 1951 in the form of

the Brine Swimming Bath being connected to fresh-water three days per week, thus allowing all the Junior Schools to send classes for instruction.

“ The Private Brine Baths are to be renovated during the year 1951/52, to encourage more use to be made of this department by Private as well as Hospital Patients. Attendances by the latter show an increase during the year.

“ The popularity of the Baths will be enhanced by the addition of a Cafe.”

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

All dwelling-houses have an internal main supply laid on, with the exception of those enumerated below :—

Houses dependant on well water ..	11
„ with stand pipes in yard ..	12
„ with supply in wash-house ..	44

The Health Department submit samples of water for analysis at regular intervals. In all, twenty-three samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. The report received in December is as follows :—

December, 1950	Milford Old Well	Shugboro'	Town
Plate Count. Yeastrei agar 2 days 37°C. aerobically	—	—	— per ml.
Probable number of coli- form bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37C°.	1	Nil	Nil per 100 ml.
Probable number of faecal coli	—	—	— per 100 ml.

Fourteen samples of the water supply were also submitted to the County Analyst. They are usually taken

quarterly, and reports covering the last quarter of the year are set out below :—

	Parts per 100,000		
	Samples taken at		
	Town	Milford Well	Shugborough Well
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F	22.5	57.5	19.5
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil.	0.0004	Nil.
Albuminoid Ammonia	Nil.	0.0016	Nil.
Nitric Nitrogen	0.05	0.15	0.05
Chlorine	4.4	14.8	4.2
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	0.012	0.036	0.004
Injurious Metallic Contamination	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
pH Value	7.4	7.4	7.4
Hardness before Boiling	8.9°	17.4°	7.6°
Hardness after Boiling	5.8°	10.4°	5.3°
Temporary Hardness	3.1°	7.0°	2.3°
Free Chlorine	tracconly		
Appearance	Extremely minute trace of suspended matter		
This water is chemically of satisfactory quality			

N.B.—Samples taken from Milford and Shugborough—chlorination was discontinued for the necessary samples to be taken.

The Laboratory reports that the water had no solvent action on lead in 24 hours.

The Water Engineer reports that for the year ending the 31st March, 1951, the total water consumption amounted to 728,866,500 gallons, an increase of 11,180,700 gallons on the previous year. This represents 20.65 and 22.76 (total 43.41) gallons per head per day for domestic and trade purposes, respectively.

Trade consumption increased by about 13,000,000 gallons, and domestic consumption decreased by about 4,500,000 gallons during the year. Institutions, Schools, etc., used an additional 3,000,000 gallons. The population figure was increased from 44,000 to 46,000 on the 1st January, 1951.

During the year water mains have been completed on Meadow Road, School Lane, Exeter Street, and Burton House Site 'B' Housing Estates, and for the Corporation Street flats.

Work on the 18in. diameter Trunk Main is now more than two-thirds completed and it is hoped to bring a proportion of this main into service within the next few weeks. During the year, the second borchole at Milford has also been

finished, and work on the new reservoir commenced on the 4th April, 1951.

Rainfall for 1950 amounted to 29.10 inches compared with an average of approximately 30 inches for the past 30 years.

The heavy rainfall during the first three months of 1951 did much to retrieve the position after the drought of 1949, and water levels at the Pumping Stations have risen appreciably.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The surcharging of the sewers is a contributory factor of some moment to the frequent stoppages of drains in many parts of the town. Further, on occasions of storm these house drains become outlets—discharging sewage into yards and brooks, and even into the houses themselves.

It is not only for this reason that larger sewers are urgently required, but the flow is also increased by the addition of new houses and the additional amenities provided in the older houses. The volume, already too great in the sewers, is being augmented daily, and the nuisances mentioned above occur with increasing frequency.

The Surveyor is aware of these occurrences.

2,256 yards of Foul Water Sewers and 978 yards of Surface Water Sewers were completed in the following districts during the year ended 31st December, 1950 :—

Coton Farm Estate, Exeter Street, School Lane, Bridle Path, Rowley Grove, Meadow Road Housing Estate, Silkmore Lane.

Sewage Disposal Works.

Following upon an enquiry held by the Ministry of Health in August, approval of the new works in principle has been given. In view of the already serious position of the town in this respect, any further delays may well give rise to conditions, not only obnoxious to those in the vicinity of the Sewage Works but in an area extending beyond.

Closet Accommodation.

There are approximately 797 waste water closets in the Borough, 40 pail closets and 4 privy middens. The drains of 126 houses discharge into cesspits.

The number of waste water closets substituted during the year by water closets with flushing apparatus was 61, and a grant of 50s. to encourage owners of property to abolish this type of obsolete and insanitary closet was still available during the year.

The Sanitary Inspectors supervised the clearing of 1,177 closet stoppages which affected 2,809 houses.

When stoppages are found to be caused by rags or other unsuitable articles, the occupiers are warned by letter as to their responsibility regarding the use of closets and drains.

Rivers and Streams.

On April 1st, 1951, the Trent River Board under the River Boards Act, 1948, will be responsible for functions relating to land drainage, fisheries, and river pollution.

A report supported by baeteriological evidenece on the unsatisfactory condition of the rivers and streams in the Borough was submitted to the Health Committee. The Committee gave instructions for notices to be placed at various points warning the Public of the unsatisfactory state of the water at those points for bathers.

Flooding of the town has not occurred this year to any serious extent, and this has been due to the more thorough cleaning out of ditches and water courses.

Samples are taken periodically by the County Council of the River Sow water for analysis both above and below the effluent of the Sewage Works and of the effluent water from the activated sludge plant. The following are the reports on samples taken in July :—

	100 yards above effluent outfall	Effluent water	200 yards below St. Thomas' Mill	Final effluent from Sludge Plant
	Parts per 100,000			
	July	July	July	July
Total solid matter dried at 212°F.	402.6	328.5	124.3	135.5
of which in suspension . .	0.6	2.0	0.8	7.0
Mineral suspended matter	0.6	0.6	0.8	1.6
Organic suspended matter	Nil	1.4	Nil	5.4
Ammoniacal Nitrogen . .	0.0527	1.9765	0.5270	7.9059
Albuminoid Nitrogen . .	0.0329	0.2306	0.0659	0.5929
Nitric Nitrogen	Nil	Nil	1.14	Nil
Chlorine	180.0	140.0	21.0	50.5
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F. . . .	0.360	3.600	0.740	9.850
Dissolved Oxygen absorbed in 5 days at 65°F	0.140	13.860	1.029	42.483
Incubation test	Satisfactory	Putrescent	Satisfactory	Putrescent

Smoke Abatement (Industrial Chimneys).

For many years the Senior Sanitary Inspector has endeavoured to dispell the prevalent opinion that the smoke pall emanating from the Salt Works is inevitable. However, rising production of salt increased the nuisance to such an extent that a petition was presented to the Council. The

Health Committee, after a conference with representatives of the largest works, decided that a prosecution might be necessary, but, before proceeding, contact was made with the Fuel Research Council who sent an Inspector down.

The Inspector was able to prove that the nuisance could be largely abated without loss of production. Altogether, there are 20 chimneys operated by these concerns, and, on account of this congestion, complete freedom from smoke cannot be expected.

If all the Works continue to carry out loyally the instructions given to them, it will not be necessary to proceed to litigation and the possible closure of the Works.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The tabular statement below contains the number and nature of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors with the number of notices served and the result of such notices.

	No. of Inspec- tions	De- fects	No. of Notices.			
			In- formal 1	Stat- utory 2	Complied with	
					1	2
DWELLINGHOUSES :—						
Repairs to dwellinghouses	1876	164	160	24	136	24
Houses requiring cleans- ing and verminous houses	47	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences ..	279	77	77	2	71	2
House drainage defects ..	917	71	71	—	71	—
Dustbins	674	26	26	—	26	—
Accumulation of refuse ..	12	—	—	—	—	—
Animals kept	5	5	5	1	4	1
Overcrowding	38	—	—	—	—	—
Water supply	55	8	8	—	8	—
Factories and Workshops..	44	10	10	—	10	—
Bakehouses	36	—	—	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses.....	917	—	—	—	—	—
Fried Fish Shops	56	—	—	—	—	—
Offensive Trades	14	—	—	—	—	—
Dairies	15	—	—	—	—	—
Piggeries and Stables	22	—	—	—	—	—
Shops or premises where food is sold or prepared ..	286	—	—	—	—	—
Market Inspections	43	—	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream Shops	40	—	—	—	—	—
Cafes	19	—	—	—	—	—
Public Houses	157	33	33	—	32	—
Cinemas	2	—	—	—	—	—
Visits to infectious cases ..	244	—	—	—	—	—
Smoke observations	46	4	4	—	4	—
Other nuisances	86	1	1	—	1	—
River Pollution.....	18	—	—	—	—	—
Rehousing of Families	1753	—	—	—	—	—
Caravans	23	—	—	—	—	—
	7724	399	395	27	363	27

Factory Act, 1937.

1.—INSPECTIONS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	16	11	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	140	33	14	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)....	7	—	—	—
Total.....	163	44	14	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases found				Prose- cutions
	Found	Reme- died	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness.....	5	5	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable tempera- ture	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient	8	8	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or de- fective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	14	14	—	2	—

The number of out-workers in the August list required by Section 110(1)(c) was 2 engaged in the making, etc., of wearing apparel.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of Council houses found to be infested	19
Number of other houses found to be infested .	21
Number of houses disinfested	40

The disinfestation of verminous houses is being effected by the extensive use of D.D.T. powder and preparations containing at least 5% D.D.T. in solution.

Proprietary Insecticides now on sale contain D.D.T. or Gammexane. These insecticides should be made full use of in the elimination of bugs, fleas, and other household pests and the public are instructed, when advice is asked for at this department, on their method of use.

All tenants who are allocated Corporation houses are visited by a Sanitary Inspector, and their rooms are examined for any vermin infestation. A clearance certificate is then issued to the appropriate Department before re-housing. Visits by Sanitary Inspectors for this purpose numbered 1753.

Refuse Disposal.

Refuse collection and disposal is under the supervision of the Borough Engineer.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector is responsible for keeping the refuse tips free of rat infestation, and also for the control of the tips against flies, crickets, etc.

In the spring of each year the tips at Riverway and Silkmore are extensively dusted with Gammexane powder. This treatment is then followed on one day a week during the summer months when the week's added tipping is dealt with.

The method has now been in use for five years, and is found to be most effective. No complaints regarding fly or other nuisances have been received from householders in the vicinity of the tips.

Dustbins.

A special report was submitted to the Public Health Committee regarding the provision of Dustbins to dwelling

houses, and the Council passed the following resolution :—

- (a) That dustbins for the reception of house refuse be provided and maintained as necessary by the Council on the conditions set out in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector in exercise of their powers under Section 75(3) of the Public Health Act, 1936, the whole of the cost of this Service being charged to the General Rate Fund.
- (b) That the Finance Committee be requested to approve a supplementary estimate of £400 in connection with the above service.
- (c) That powers to order the provision and maintenance of specific dustbins for the reception of house refuse be delegated to the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

The Scheme became operative as from the 1st July, 1950, and, from that date up to December 31st, 421 applications were dealt with, and, out of this number, 360 dustbins have been supplied.

Offensive Trades.

There are two offensive trades on the Register consisting of :—

- 1 Rag and Bone Merchant.
- 1 Gut Seraper.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector is the Authorised Pest Officer and is assisted by a Pest Operator.

The above mentioned Act came into force on the 31st March, 1950, and repealed the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

During the past twelve months the following quantities of prepared poison bait has been eaten by rats :—

	lbs.	ozs.
Containing Arsenic	13	0
Containing Zinc Phosphide ..	17	10
Containing Red Squill	32	8
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	63	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Conservative estimate of rats killed in 1950—1,905.

It is of interest to find that for the last five years the number of rats killed has been below 2,000, while for the previous two years, 1944 and 1945, over 3,500 rats were estimated as being destroyed. In the year 1945 the amount of poison bait eaten was 126 lbs. as compared with 63 lbs. last year.

The following figures are a conservative estimate of the rats killed during the last five years :—

1946	..	..	..	1,414
1947	..	..	..	1,026
1948	..	..	..	1,277
1949	..	..	..	1,746
1950	..	..	..	1,905
				<hr/>
				7,368
				<hr/>

In connection with the pre-baiting and poisoning of rats the Pest Operator paid 790 visits to houses.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

Dampness, due to condensation, has been referred to in previous reports. The problem arose acutely during the year in certain prefabricated houses and was referred to higher authority, and finally reached the National Building Research Station for investigation.

Is adequate thought being given to overcome the problem regarding the lack of sufficient heating of houses, which is becoming increasingly more evident on account of—

- (1) The restriction of fuel, and
- (2) the large number of married couples who go out to work.

The Council, through their Housing Committee, have continued actively during the year to try and meet the

unending demands for houses. The pressure is still there, and is unfortunately disclosed by the ready letting, and sometimes sale, of poor property. The decision as to whether to represent a property for demolition while this pressure is maintained, continues to be one of some anxiety to this department.

The desirability of dealing with old and worn out houses is obvious. The time, when, to do so is one of considerable difficulty. Two reports were submitted to the Housing Committee. The first report was designed to elucidate the condition of the house structure and the social urgency of the need for other accommodation of those Borough applicants with children, whose names were on the Council's housing list. A summary of this report is given on page 40. The second report, based on the Senior Sanitary Inspector's 21 years' knowledge of the town, was a classification into groups as to structure and condition of all houses built prior to 1917. He estimated that there was a total of 10,074 houses in the Borough, and that 7% could rightly be considered as unfit and ripe for condemnation. He also pointed out that 4,454 houses had been erected prior to 1917. The report suggested that it might require 57 Clearance Areas to deal with the matter, but, as to method and timing, the Committee would require further information from the Surveyor and County Planning Department.

In the Annual Report for 1948, reference was made to a joint meeting of the Public Health and Housing Committees at which it was decided that a commencement could be made in dealing with the Council's unfit houses. This year 23 tenants have been rehoused and 9 houses demolished.

The table supplied by the Housing Manager compares applications on the books for March 1945 and March 1951. It is to be understood that these applications include many from outside the Borough, and that the 1,000 houses already erected have not apparently relieved this pressure to any great extent.

Analysis of Housing Applications :

HOUSEHOLDERS

Date	Man and wife	Man, wife and one child	Man, wife and two children	Man, wife and three children	Man, wife and four children	Man, wife and five children	Man, wife and six children	TOTAL
6th March 1951	136	301	241	88	32	15	9	822
1945	73	181	179	92	52	25	11	613
Increase	63	120	62	—	—	—	—	209
Decrease	—	—	—	4	20	10	2	

LODGERS

Date	Man and wife	Man, wife and one child	Man, wife and two children	Man, wife and three children	Man, wife and four children	Man, wife and five children	Man, wife and six children	TOTAL
6th March 1951	525	491	100	10	6	4	1	1,132
1945	373	421	155	41	11	3	1	1,005
Increase	152	70	—	—	—	1	—	127
Decrease	—	—	55	31	5	—	—	

Total Householders	..	..	..	..	..	..	822
Total Lodgers	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,132
Grand Total, 1951	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,954
Grand Total, 1945	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,618
Increase	..	..	..	..	..	..	336

Mr. Higson, the Borough Surveyor, summarises the Housing programme as follows :—

HOUSING COMPLETED.

(a)	(i) Number of permanent houses erected by Corporation during 1950	312	
	(ii) Number of houses erected by other developers during 1950	88	
		—	400
			==
(b)	(i) Total number of houses erected since the end of the War up to the end of 1950	1,119	
	(ii) Temporary houses	225	
	(iii) Conversion into flats	23	
		—	1,367
			==

HOUSING PLANNED.

(c)	Total number of houses in course of erection	244
		==

Moveable Dwellings.

Six licences were granted to “site” trailer caravans for limited periods and three were refused. There is no registered camping ground in the Borough.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The table on page 17 enumerates the visits made by the Sanitary Inspectors to bakehouses, fried fish shops, cowsheds, dairies, premises where cooked meals are prepared, ice cream makers, and all shops where food is sold.

The number of visits to the Government controlled slaughterhouse in Red Lion Street—917—indicates that every effort was made to achieve 100% inspection of animals slaughtered there.

Public Health Propaganda.

A talk on the clean handling of food and food poisoning was given on two occasions to the personnel of the food handling trades. Previously the managements had been contacted, and it was decided that, in order to cover the majority of the personnel, it would be advisable to hold the meetings after the Summer holidays and prior to the Xmas rush, and during working hours. Through the good offices of the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, the Assembly Rooms were placed at our disposal for two consecutive Tuesday mornings. The National Public Health

Laboratory supplied bacteriological specimens—the Central Office of Information provided the films, “Another Case of Food Poisoning” and “A Fly about the House.” “New Detergents” by the Petroleum Films Bureau. Messrs. Marks and Spencer’s loaned us a series of large photographs illustrating the technique of the clean handling of foods.

The Chairman, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, and I addressed the Meetings. The Mayor and other Members of the Health Committee supported us. The attendances were good.

Talks on the same subject were given by the Staff to many other societies during the year.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Under the new Milk and Dairies Regulations, which became operative as from October, 1949, licences were issued in six instances for premises registered as dairies (not being dairy farms) and to 36 persons to carry on the trade of distributors.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Number of persons issued with Dealers’ Licences			
for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Raw Milk	..	=	0
Number of persons issued with Supplementary			
Licences for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Raw			
Milk	.. .. .	=	6
Number of persons issued with Dealers’ Licences for			
the sale of Accredited milk	.. .. .	=	0

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Number of persons issued with Dealers’ Licences			
for the sale of Pasteurised milk	.. .. .	=	12
Number of persons issued with Dealers’ Licences			
for the sale of Sterilised milk	.. .. .	=	8
Number of persons issued with Dealers’ Licences to			
use designation, Tuberculin Tested Milk			
(Pasteurised)	.. .. .	=	16
Number of persons issued with Supplementary			
Licences for the sale of Pasteurised milk	.. .. .	=	8
Number of persons issued with Supplementary			
Licences for the sale of Sterilised milk	.. .. .	=	1
Number of persons issued with Supplementary			
Licences to use designation Tuberculin Tested			
milk (Pasteurised)	.. .. .	=	7

In addition, four dairy farmers retail milk within the Borough.

Notice under Section 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Three retailers were found to be retailing milk which contained Tubercle Bacilli. The milk was produced outside the Borough. The retailers were served with notices stopping the supply of milk until such milk was heat treated. When the necessary notification was received from the Veterinary Surgeon and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries that the milk from the producer was free from Tubercle Bacilli, the notices were withdrawn.

The examination of samples for bacterial content and for tubercle bacilli is carried out by the County Council. The following results were obtained from milk on sale in the Borough:—

Designation	No. of samples taken	Cleanliness		Tuberculosis	
		Satis.	Unsatis. Methylene Blue test	Neg.	Pos.
Tuberculin Tested	46	44	2	—	—
T.T. (Pasteurised)	14	13	1	—	—
Pasteurised ..	49	47	2	—	—
Aecredited ..	1	1	—	—	—
Sterilised	1	1	—	—	—
Undesignated ..	59	43	13	17	3
	170	149	18	17	3

Some of the above samples were tested both for Tuberculosis and for cleanliness.

Samples of milk were taken from retailers as follows :—

	Number
PRODUCER-RETAILERS :	
Milk from own cows	34
Milk from cows of other producers	20
RETAILERS :	
Dairies in Borough receiving milk from cowkeepers outside the Borough	70
Dairies outside the Borough receiving milk from keepers within the Borough	2
Dairies outside the Borough receiving milk from cowkeepers outside the Borough ¹	44

Meat and Other Foods.

At Stafford there is one Government-controlled Slaughterhouse which supplies Stafford Rural, Rugeley and parts of Cannock Rural District in addition to Stafford Borough.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.—During the year 21 licences were issued to fit and proper persons to slaughter animals for human food. A number of men to whom licences were granted were not employed at slaughterhouses, but include butchers' assistants whose original licences were granted prior to 1939. The latter group of men are kept on the register to ensure the humane killing of pigs for private individuals.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,966	1,345	1,581	11,554	5,769
Number inspected	2,966	1,345	1,581	11,554	5,769
Casualty animals condemned	70	96	83	134	230
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	22	17	13	24
Portions of carcasses with organs	14	30	2	24	12
Organs only	985	687	—	332	98
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	25.5	42.16	1.2	3.2	2.32
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	56	3		15
Portions of carcasses with organs	8	30			1
Organs only	337	702			267
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	7.32	33.25	.19		4.91

The total weight of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption was 51 tons 1cwt. 17lbs. This meat was disposed of by the Ministry of Food.

199 Certificates were issued confirming the unfitness of foods reported to the Department by provision merchants in the town. The principal items were:— 219 tins milk, 382 tins meat, 510 tins vegetables, 272 tins fish, 193 tins and jars of fruit and preserves, 185 tins soup, 62 stones fish. 39 other certificates were issued for sundry items.

Regular inspections have been made of the foodstuffs exposed for sale in the Market.

The County Medical Officer has supplied the following information regarding food samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938:—

Milk : 162 samples—all genuine.

General Foods : 35 samples—all genuine, as follows :—

Sausage, Cod Liver Oil, Butter, Tea, Margarine, Soreen, Beef Suet, Fish Balls, Sugar, Cooking Fat, Cheese, Self-raising Flour, Strawberry Jam, Tomato Soup, Ground Coffee, Lemon Juice, Essence of Coffee and Chicory, Plum Pudding, Shredded Wheat, Grape Nuts.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The following premises are registered :—

Preparation of sausages, etc.	26
Manufacture and sale of ice cream	21
Sale only of ice cream	25
Sale of ice cream in pre-packed containers	49
Storage of ice cream	1
Fish frying	28
Shops which are visited to which Section 13 applies	140

Byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for securing cleanly conditions in the handling, wrapping, delivery, sale and exposure for sale, came into operation within the Borough on the 16th day of April, 1950.

All premises for which the Byelaws were enforceable were inspected, and a copy of the Byelaws handed to the person in charge of each premises.

Improvements have continued to be made to all food shops, and, in addition to the supply of running hot water which was installed last year, 89 defects were remedied. Visits were also paid to 76 public houses, and, with the exception of three, hot water is now provided over the sink in the bar so that there are adequate facilities for the proper

washing of glasses. A recommendation was also made that a sterilising agent should be used.

Ice Cream.

Frequent inspections have been carried out of premises where ice cream is manufactured or sold.

The table of premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act shown above indicates that there are 21 manufacturers of ice cream in the Borough. Two of these use a boiled mix and the premises are equipped with modern machinery. Twenty-five sell ice cream either loose or pre-packed, and the remaining 49 have been restricted to the sale of pre-packed ice cream only, because of the nature of other trade carried out on their premises.

Samples are taken frequently for determining the wholesomeness of the product, and submitted to the Laboratory for testing; the results are tabulated into four grades. Grades 3 and 4, if repeated constantly, indicate an unsatisfactory product.

Sampling is also used as a means to trace a fault in manufacture, and this explains the presence of a rather high proportion in Grade 4 under heat treatment listed in the following table :—

LABORATORY REPORTS ON ICE CREAM (1950)					
	Ice Cream made within the Borough		Ice Cream made outside the Borough		Total
	Heat Treated	Cold Mix	Heat Treated	Cold Mix	
Grade 1	10	8	8	—	26
Grade 2	4	1	3	—	8
Grade 3	—	2	1	—	3
Grade 4	1	—	6	—	7

Food Poisoning.

Six individual cases of Food Poisoning were reported during the year. The causal organism was B. Typhimurium in all cases.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.
(see Table 5, page 39)

Diphtheria.

One case, a child, was notified during the year.

Although Diphtheria Immunisation is now a function of the County Council, statistics for the Borough have been obtained and set out below, as it is a matter of local interest.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1950.

School.	Immunised.	Children re-immunised.
St. Austin's	4	4
St. Leonard's Avenue .	4	17
Forebridge	—	8
Corporation St. Infants	16	33
Littleworth	5	19
Tenter Banks	9	17
Holmeroft	5	20
Stone Road	7	17
St. Patrick's Junior ...	4	11
Rising Brook	—	39
Silkmere Primary.....	8	35
Welfare Centre	113	10
General Practitioners ..	237	29
Total	412	259

Scarlet Fever.

There were 125 cases notified as against 46 last year. There were no deaths.

Thirty-seven cases were removed to Hospital.

In thirteen instances more than one case occurred in one family.

The disease was generally mild in character—it was present throughout the year, but was most prevalent in the month of July.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Eight cases were notified—five took place in Maternity Homes.

Pneumonia.

Thirty cases were notified during the year, and, excepting that five cases occurred in June, the main incidence occurred as usual in the first and last quarters of the year and coincided with a slight rise in the number of Whooping Cough and Scarlet Fever cases. Age distribution was not that of an epidemic, and males were affected in the proportion of two to one.

There were sixteen deaths—these were confined to the extremes of life, i.e., under five and over 65 years.

Smallpox.

There were no cases of Smallpox notified. Comparatively frequent notices are received as to contacts of

cases occurring on board ship, etc. Contacts are visited and kept under observation for the necessary period whilst residing in the Borough.

Poliomyelitis.

The outbreak of Poliomyelitis in Stafford consisted of 13 cases, also one case not notified, and one who developed the disease while away on holiday. There was one death, and all but four developed slight or severe paralysis. Nine cases are still having treatment, one is in Hospital, and four cases have fully recovered.

The first case was notified on the 11th July, and, excepting for the month of September, cases were reported until December 4th. All except one case were admitted to Hospital.

Age and sex distribution was as follows :—

Years	0—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—30
Males	1	3	0	0	1
Females ..	2	3	3	0	2

A history of one or other member of the household having been unwell prior to the illness was frequently obtained. The onset was sometimes gastro-intestinal in type—in others it was preceded by a history of throat trouble. No definite contact of case to case, except for the last two, was discovered, and the outbreak was not confined to one particular area of the town. No association with Immunisation was reported.

On account of the intensified movement of the people during August month, and, with a view to localising any outbreak if it should develop, the Chairmen of the Public Health and Baths Committees agreed to the closure of the Baths and to the children's performances at the Odeon. Although no case which developed the disease appeared to have been infected at either of these places, it can be recorded that no cases were notified for the month following closure, i.e., September. In addition, the water in the open air paddling pool was chlorinated, and the public were advised not to bathe in certain streams. Subsequent investigation disclosed two children who, prior to the outbreak might have been early cases, although neither developed paralysis following their illness.

Dysentery.

Although comparatively few cases were notified, the presence of an extensive but very mild form of Sonne Dysentery made itself felt in November, and was still present in March, the following year. All cases were followed up, and for the first twenty cases a detailed and searching enquiry was made in each case as to the origin. The outbreak overlapped an epidemic of Influenza, and a seasonal outbreak of catarrhal colds, and was probably, in many instances, confused with one or other of these diseases. It proved troublesome at one of the Children's Homes, at a Nursery School and a Nursery Class, and generally entailed a lot of time and trouble in restricting its spread in these places. In most instances its spread from member to member of a household was very usual, and, even when there were no clinical symptoms, a bacteriological investigation disclosed the frequency with which the mother of a child reported to be suffering from diarrhoea was also excreting the organism.

Measles.

Commencing in January, rising to its peak in the 2nd and 3rd weeks of March, falling rapidly to the end week of April, and then slowly declining, the epidemic lingered on until September. Total cases notified were 726, they were mild in character, and there was one death. The new drugs assisted materially in reducing the death rate and lessened the complications of this disease. One case only was removed to Hospital. For the country as a whole the epidemic reached its height in June.

Whooping Cough.

There were fewer cases reported this year—outbreaks were small in size, and the total cases notified numbered 57 only. There were no deaths.

Erysipelas.

One case was notified.

Tuberculosis.

Analysis of new cases and deaths during the calendar year, 1950 :—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—25	2	3	—	1	1	—	1	—
25—35	2	1	—	2	2	2	—	—
35—45	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
55—65	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	9	7	1	4	6	3	1	—
Ten year average, pre-war (1929-38)	21.9	15.6	7.7	5.3	12.6	7.8	2.8	1.7

The death rates per 1,000 of the population, all forms were:-
1930, 0.9 1940, 0.53 1950, 0.25

The “ Balance Sheet ” for the Register may be given as follows :—

On Register at Jan. 1st	205	Deaths	..	..	..	10
Notifications	.. .. 18	Recovered	..	..		41
Transfers	.. .. 2	Outward Transfers	..			5
Un-notified deaths	.. 1	Left district, address unknown	.. ..			8
		On Register at Dec. 31st				162
	226					226

NOTIFICATION.— During the year one death occurred of a person who had not been notified as suffering from the disease. The doctor attending assumed that the patient had been notified by a Doctor who had left the town.

Admissions to and discharges from institutions were notified as follows :—

	Admissions		Discharges	
Prestwood Sanatorium ..	2	..	5	
Groundslow Sanatorium ..	—	..	1	
The Limes, Himley	1	..	—	
Oswestry (Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt)	1	..	—	

HEALTH VISITING.—Domiciliary visits are made by the County Health Visitors.

Close co-operation exists as between the Tuberculosis Dispensary and the Health Department. It can be recorded that the Housing Committee have always acceded to a request for re-housing when conditions warranted such action.

An attempt is being made, owing to bed shortage, to treat certain cases at home which formerly would have required admission to a Sanatorium. The scheme depends on the co-operation of many—the Tuberculosis Physician—the family doctor—the Nursing Service—the Home Help Service, and not least the family affected. It is premature to say much as yet, except that only early cases where co-operation can be assured should be selected.

Disinfection.

A Washington Lyon steam disinfector is used for bedding, clothing, etc., which have been exposed to infection, or have been infested with vermin.

Lots of bedding disinfected or destroyed ..	17
Houses disinfected after infectious disease ..	10

MORTUARY.

Bodies were received at the Public Mortuary as follows:—

Borough residents	19
Non-residents who died in the Borough ..	3
Brought in from outside the Borough ..	9
Non-civilians	—
	31
Post-mortem examinations	20

Cemeteries.

The present burial ground in Eccleshall Road was opened in 1856 and extended in 1940, and should be sufficient for the needs of the borough for the next nine years, but, in view of the development which is taking place on the outskirts of the town, it is essential that a suitable site be found as quickly as possible and earmarked for this purpose as there are certain statutory obligations to be observed regarding distances from dwelling houses, etc.

Mr. Bennett, the Cemetery Superintendent, adds that, "Efforts are still proceeding with a view to finding a suitable site for this purpose. Trial holes have already been taken out on three suggested sites, but, owing to the nature of the ground, have been found unsuitable for burial purposes."

Cremation is the solution, but the population of Stafford is not large enough to make the proposition an economical one. It would, therefore, appear desirable for all of us who are advancing in years to make it known that, when life ceases, and having no objections to cremation, it is our wish not to be an encumbrance upon the earth, therefore, please despatch to the nearest crematorium.

Table 1.—Births and Stillbirths

Year	STAFFORD BOROUGH.				Birth Rate for Smaller Towns of England and Wales
	Total Births	Birth Rate	Total Still Births	Still Birth Rate	
1941 ..	596	15.8	24	39	14.2
1942 ..	667	18.0	18	26	15.8
1943 ..	661	18.3	23	33	16.5
1944 ..	720	20.7	19	26	17.6
1945 ..	635	18.8	18	27	19.2
1946 ..	685	19.4	26	36	21.3
1947 ..	703	19.7	19	26	22.2
1948 ..	686	18.2	23	32	19.2
1949 ..	755	19.5	17	22	18.0
1950 ..	638	15.9	17	25	16.8

Table 2.—Infant mortality for 1950 and previous ten years

Year	Live Births	Under one month		Under one year	
		Deaths	Rate per 1000 births	Deaths	Rate per 1000 births
1940 ..	540	18	33	30	55
1941 ..	596	12	20	26	42
1942 ..	667	25	37	35	52
1943 ..	661	17	25	30	45
1944 ..	720	15	21	20	27
1945 ..	635	19	29	30	47
1946 ..	685	16	23	27	39
1947 ..	703	14	19	24	34
1948 ..	686	11	16	19	27
1949 ..	755	11	14	16	21.2
Average for 10 years	665	16	24	26	39
1950 ..	638	6	9.40	13	20.37

Table 3.—Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality, and Case Rates for Certain Infectious Diseases.

	England and Wales	148 Smaller Towns	STAFFORD	
			1950	1949
	Rates per 1,000		Population :—	
Live Births	15.8	16.7	15.9	19.5
Still Births.....	0.37	0.38	.424	.439
DEATHS.				
All Causes	11.6	11.6	9.43	9.74
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	0.02	0.02	0.02	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	—	—
Small-pox	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia.....	0.46	0.45	0.24	0.23
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.01	—	—
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	—	—
Influenza.....	0.10	0.10	—	0.12
Tuberculosis	0.36	0.33	0.24	0.28
NOTIFICATIONS.				
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis) Paralytic....	0.13	0.11	0.22	} 0.05
Non-Paralytic	0.05	0.06	0.09	
Small-pox	0.00	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever.....	1.50	1.61	3.12	1.18
Diphtheria	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	—	—
Erysipelas	0.17	0.16	0.02	0.15
Pneumonia	0.70	0.61	0.74	0.72
Whooping Cough	3.60	3.15	1.42	4.36
Measles	8.39	8.36	18.12	2.5
Food Poisoning	0.17	0.14	0.14	0.05
	Rates per 1,000		Live Births :—	
Deaths under one year of age	29.8	29.4	20.37	21.19
Deaths from Diarrhoea and En- teritis under two years of age	1.9	1.6	0.09	2.64
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still):—				
MATERNAL MORTALITY :				
Abortion with sepsis	0.09		—	—
Other abortion	0.05		—	—
Complications of pregnancy and delivery	0.54	Not avail- able	0.02	—
Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium.....	0.03		—	—
Other complications of the puerperium	0.15		—	1.29

The rates apply to the civilian population only.

The 148 Smaller Towns have resident populations of 25,000 to 50,000 ; Stafford is one of these.

Table 4.—Registrar-General's Short List of Causes of Death.

Causes of Death	Total	Males	Females
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	8	6	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	1
Measles	1	1	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	12	7	5
Malignant Neoplasm lung, bronchus	7	7	—
Malignant Neoplasm Breast	3	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus :.....	2	—	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	29	15	14
Diabetes	2	1	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	57	23	34
Coronary disease, angina	33	21	12
Hypertension with Heart Disease	11	3	8
Other Heart Disease.....	111	57	54
Other circulatory Diseases	11	4	7
Pneumonia	10	3	7
Bronchitis	14	9	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	3	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	2	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	—	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	1	—	1
Congenital malformations	2	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.....	36	15	21
Motor Vehicle accidents.....	4	3	1
All other accidents	6	5	1
Suicide	5	4	1
TOTAL DEATHS	378	190	188

Ward distribution of deaths :—

North, 74 ; South, 82 ; East, 84 ; West, 45 ; Bas-
wich, 93.

Table 5.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED IN 1950.

Notifiable Diseases	At all Ages	Case Distribution as to Wards				Marston Road Hosp.	Gen. Infirm.	Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25—45	45—65	65 & over	Removed to Isolation Hospital
		North	South	East	West	Baswich														
Scarlet Fever Cases .. Deaths	125 —	13 —	31 —	14 —	15 —	52 —	—	—	2 —	9 —	11 —	22 —	66 —	7 —	4 —	2 —	2 —	—	—	37 —
Pneumonia Cases .. Deaths	30 —	3 —	6 —	2 —	12 —	7 —	1	—	2 —	2 —	—	1 —	7 —	—	—	1 —	5 —	7 —	5 —	—
Poliomyelitis Cases .. Deaths	14 1	1 —	3 —	2 —	4 —	4 1	—	—	1 —	1 —	1 —	—	6 —	2 —	—	1 —	2 1	—	—	13 1
Puerperal Pyrexia Cases .. Deaths	8 —	1 —	2 —	—	1 —	4 —	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 —	7 —	—	—	—
Erysipelas Cases .. Deaths	1 —	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 —	—	—
Measles Cases .. Deaths	726 —	172 —	116 —	106 —	173 —	159 —	—	24 —	80 —	91 —	95 —	121 —	302 —	6 —	2 —	2 —	3 —	—	—	1 —
Whooping Cough Cases .. Deaths	57 —	7 —	23 —	4 —	15 —	8 —	—	1 —	8 —	9 —	11 —	9 —	19 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria Cases .. Deaths	1 —	—	—	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 —
Food Poisoning Cases .. Deaths	6 —	2 —	—	1 —	2 —	1 —	—	—	—	—	2 —	1 —	2 —	—	—	1 —	—	—	—	1 —
Dysentery Cases .. Deaths	21 —	5 —	7 —	4 —	—	5 —	—	—	—	1 —	2 —	2 —	5 —	—	—	—	5 —	4 —	2 —	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum Cases .. Deaths	1 —	—	—	—	1 —	—	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

A Summary of Report of Applicants List submitted to Housing Committee by the Senior Sanitary Inspector on 10th November, 1950.

The reasons for such a survey were :—

- (a) To disclose the number of families living in low grade condemnable houses.
- (b) To determine the extent of overcrowding when assessed by Sections 57 to 68 of the Housing Act, 1936, i.e., statutory overcrowding.
- (c) To determine the number of families who, having low points, yet, for health or maybe other reasons, should receive special consideration.

The survey was based on the Housing Analysis of May last, which was as follows :—

Householder and child	Man and wife	Total
730	119	849
Lodgers and child		
654	390	1044
		<hr/>
		1893
		<hr/>

When those residing outside Stafford and the “man and wife” only groups are excluded, there remains **838 families**. Of these, 123 had found other accommodation and 30 were always out when the Inspector visited the house. This leaves 685 families consisting of 424 householders, of whom 60 require rehousing as soon as possible and 261 lodger families, of whom 145 require rehousing immediately.

I am of opinion that in view of the progress made in post-war house building to date and the reduced number of applicants now in urgent need, as shown by the above analysis, some further consideration should be given to the problem of clearing and demolishing unfit houses within the Borough.

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